

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas, characterised by groups fixed to the surface, wherein the groups are dimethylsilyl and/or monomethylsilyl, said silicas having a tamped density of 280 g/l or less, said silicas having been structurally modified by being ball milled and being characterised by the following physico-chemical characteristics:

<u>BET surface area m²/g:</u>	<u>25 - 400</u>
<u>Average size of the primary particles nm:</u>	<u>5 - 50</u>
<u>pH value:</u>	<u>3 - 10</u>
<u>Carbon content %:</u>	<u>0.1 - 10</u>
<u>DBP value %:</u>	<u>< 200</u>

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 1, characterised in that pyrogenically produced silica is treated by a known method with dimethyldichlorosilane and/or monomethyltrichlorosilane, the groups dimethylsilyl and/or monomethylsilyl being fixed on the surface of the pyrogenic silica, and is then structurally modified by ball milling the silica and optionally post-ground.

4. (Original) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 3, characterised in that a tempering takes place after the structural modification and/or post-grinding.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for improving the scratch resistance of lacquers comprising incorporating into the lacquer the silanized, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas defined in claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced and ball milled silica having groups fixed to the surface wherein said groups comprise at least one of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl[[.]] and wherein said silica has a tamped density of 280 g/l or less, said silica having the following physical chemical properties:.

<u>BET surface area m²/g:</u>	<u>25 - 400</u>
<u>Average size of the primary particles nm:</u>	<u>5 - 50</u>
<u>pH value:</u>	<u>3 - 10</u>
<u>Carbon content %:</u>	<u>0.1 - 10</u>
<u>DBP value %:</u>	<u>< 200</u>

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to claim 6, which has a tamped density of 100 to 280 g/l.

9. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica of claim 6, comprising:

treating a pyrogenically produced silica with at least one of dimethyldichlorosilane and monomethyltrichlorosilane to thereby fix groups on the surface of the pyrogenic silica, said groups being at least one of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, structurally modifying said silica by ball milling said silica and optionally post grinding said silica.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 9, further comprising tempering after at least one of structurally modifying said silica and post grinding said silica.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [[7]] 11, wherein post grinding is by air-jet mill or pin mill.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein tempering takes place under protective gas.

15. (Currently Amended) A lacquer comprising a polyurethane and ~~the~~ a silanised silica ~~according to claim 6~~ having been structurally modified by being ball milled and being characterised by the following physico-chemical characteristics:

<u>BET surface area m²/g:</u>	<u>25 - 400</u>
<u>Average size of the primary particles nm:</u>	<u>5 - 50</u>
<u>pH value:</u>	<u>3 - 10</u>
<u>Carbon content %:</u>	<u>0.1 - 10</u>
<u>DBP value %:</u>	<u>< 200</u>

16. (Previously Presented) A surface coated with the lacquer according to claim 15.

17. (Previously Presented) The surface according to claim 16, which is metal.